



## What progress have we made since Rio? Results from the 2012 Environmental Performance Index (EPI) and Pilot Trend EPI

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### Abstract:

This paper demonstrates how quantitative indicators and indices of environmental performance help gauge progress toward global policy goals identified as priorities two decades ago. This study uses the most recent performance and trend data from the 2012 Environmental Performance Index (EPI) and Trend EPI to answer two main questions: What progress has been made on the environmental issues identified by high-level leaders at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992 and subsequently in the Millennium Development Goal 7 (MDG7)? What are some of the factors that can help to explain differences in performance on these issues? To answer these questions, this paper introduces pared-down versions of the 2012 EPI and Trend EPI indices to evaluate performance and progress over the last decade on the five policy categories related to objectives specified in MDG7: Water (Effects on Human Health), Biodiversity and Habitat, Forestry, Fisheries, and Climate Change and Energy. The results presented in this paper demonstrate that progress on the MDG7 environmental goals is uneven - by country, region, and issue. While income, social development, and institutional factors explain some of these differences, we suggest that variable global environmental performance can partly be attributed to challenges within the processes and institutions of the MDGs.

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### Resource Description

#### Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

#### Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker

#### Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Ecosystem Changes, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security, Indoor Environment

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

**Air Pollution:** Particulate Matter

**Food/Water Security:** Fisheries

**Geographic Feature:** ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

**Geographic Location:** ☒

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

**Health Impact:** ☒

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

General Health Impact

**Medical Community Engagement:** ☒

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

**Population of Concern:** A focus of content

**Population of Concern:** ☒

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

**Resource Type:** ☒

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion

**Timescale:** ☒

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified